

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A thin-film magnetic head comprising:

a recording head section having a recording head and a first medium facing surface that faces toward a recording medium; and

a reproducing head section having a reproducing head and a second medium facing surface that faces toward the recording medium, ~~wherein~~ wherein:

the recording head section and the reproducing head section are bonded to each other so that the first medium facing surface and the second medium facing surface are ~~continuous~~ continuous;

the recording head section includes a recording head section body for accommodating the recording head, the recording head section body having the first medium facing surface and a back surface located on the opposite side from the first medium facing surface;

the recording head has an induction-type electromagnetic transducer, and an insulating layer having a bottom surface exposed in the back surface and a top surface opposite to the bottom surface;

the induction-type electromagnetic transducer has: a thin-film coil; first and second pole portion layers opposed to each other and disposed near the first medium facing surface; a magnetic-path-forming part that is disposed so as to surround a part of the thin-film coil and couples the first pole portion layer and the second pole portion layer to each other; and a gap part provided between the first and second pole portion layers;

the thin-film coil and the magnetic-path-forming part are disposed above the top surface of the insulating layer; and

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the first and second pole portion layers are disposed above the thin-film coil and exposed in the first medium facing surface.

2. (Currently Amended) A thin-film magnetic head according to claim 1, wherein:

~~the recording head section includes a recording head section body for accommodating the recording head, the recording head section body having the first medium facing surface and a back surface located on the opposite side from the first medium facing surface;~~

the recording head further has a conductor that is surrounded by the insulating layer and exposed in the back surface, and that is electrically connected to an external device, device and to the thin-film coil; ~~and an induction type electromagnetic transducer electrically connected to the conductor;~~

~~the induction type electromagnetic transducer has: a thin film coil electrically connected to the conductor; first and second pole portion layers opposed to each other and disposed near the first medium facing surface; a magnetic path forming part that is disposed so as to surround a part of the thin film coil and couples the first pole portion layer and the second pole portion layer to each other; and a gap part provided between the first and second pole portion layers;~~

each of the first and second pole portion layers has a protrusion for defining a recording track width, the protrusion having an end surface exposed in the first medium facing surface; and

the thickness of each of the first and second pole portion layers defines a throat height.

3. (Original) A thin-film magnetic head according to claim 1, wherein:

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the reproducing head section includes a reproducing head section body for accommodating the reproducing head, the reproducing head section body having the second medium facing surface and a back surface located on the opposite side from the second medium facing surface; and

the reproducing head has a conductor that is exposed in the back surface and electrically connected to an external device, and a magnetoresistive element that is disposed near the second medium facing surface and electrically connected to the conductor.

4-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A thin-film magnetic head comprising: a conductor that is electrically connected to an external device; an insulating layer surrounding the conductor; an induction-type electromagnetic transducer electrically connected to the conductor; and a body for accommodating the conductor, the insulating layer and the induction-type electromagnetic transducer, wherein:

the body has a medium facing surface that faces toward a recording medium, and a back surface located on the opposite side from the medium facing surface;

the insulating layer has a bottom surface exposed in the back surface, and a top surface opposite to the bottom surface;

the conductor is exposed in the back surface;

~~the induction-type electromagnetic transducer is stacked on the conductor;~~

the induction-type electromagnetic transducer has: a thin-film coil electrically connected to the conductor; first and second pole portion layers opposed to each other and disposed near the medium facing surface; a magnetic-path-forming part that is disposed so as to surround a part of the thin-film coil and couples the first pole portion layer and the second pole portion layer to each other; and a gap part provided between the first and second pole portion layers;

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the thin-film coil and the magnetic-path-forming part are disposed above the top surface of the insulating layer;

the first and second pole portion layers are disposed above the thin-film coil and exposed in the medium facing surface;

each of the first and second pole portion layers has a protrusion for defining a recording track width, the protrusion having an end surface exposed in the medium facing surface; and

the thickness of each of the first and second pole portion layers defines a throat height.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head comprising:
a slider section having a recording head and a first medium facing surface that faces toward a rotating recording medium; and

a reproducing head section having a reproducing head and a second medium facing surface that faces toward the recording medium, wherein:

the first medium facing surface has concavities and convexities for controlling the orientation of the slider section while the recording medium is rotating, and

the slider section and the reproducing head section are bonded to each other so that the first medium facing surface and the second medium facing surface are ~~continuous~~.
continuous;

the slider section has a body for accommodating the recording head, the body having the first medium facing surface and a back surface located on the opposite side from the first medium facing surface;

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the recording head has an induction-type electromagnetic transducer, and an insulating layer having a bottom surface exposed in the back surface and a top surface opposite to the bottom surface;

the induction-type electromagnetic transducer has: a thin-film coil; first and second pole portion layers opposed to each other and disposed near the first medium facing surface; a magnetic-path-forming part that is disposed so as to surround a part of the thin-film coil and couples the first pole portion layer and the second pole portion layer to each other; and a gap part provided between the first and second pole portion layers;

the thin-film coil and the magnetic-path-forming part are disposed above the top surface of the insulating layer; and

the first and second pole portion layers are disposed above the thin-film coil and exposed in the first medium facing surface.

11. (Currently Amended) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 10, wherein ~~the recording head includes an induction-type electromagnetic transducer, and the reproducing head includes a magnetoresistive element.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head ~~according to claim 10, wherein comprising:~~

a slider section having a recording head and a first medium facing surface that faces toward a rotating recording medium; and

a reproducing head section having a reproducing head and a second medium facing surface that faces toward the recording medium, wherein:

the first medium facing surface has concavities and convexities for controlling the orientation of the slider section while the recording medium is rotating;

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the slider section and the reproducing head section are bonded to each other so that the first medium facing surface and the second medium facing surface are continuous; and

the first medium facing surface has a first surface closer to the reproducing head section, a second surface farther from the reproducing head section, and a border portion between the first surface and the second surface, the first surface and the second surface being slanted with respect to each other such that the first and second surfaces make a convex shape bent at the border portion.

13. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 12, wherein, while the recording medium is rotating, at least either the first surface or the second surface slants with respect to the surface of the recording medium such that the smaller the distance from a point in at least either the first or second surface to the border portion, the smaller the distance from said point to the recording medium.

14. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 12, wherein the slider section is in contact with the surface of the recording medium while the recording medium is at rest, and is off the surface of the recording medium while the recording medium is rotating.

15. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 14, wherein, when the slider section comes into contact with the surface of the recording medium, the border portion is the first to make contact with the surface of the recording medium.

16. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 14, wherein, when the slider section takes off from the surface of the recording medium, the border portion is the last to depart from the surface of the recording medium.

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17. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 12, wherein, regardless of whether the recording medium is rotating or at rest, the slider section is in contact with the surface of the recording medium at the border portion, and the first surface and the second surface slant with respect to the surface of the recording medium.

18. (Original) A slider for a thin-film magnetic head according to claim 12, wherein the first medium facing surface has a recess formed in a region including the border portion.

19-32. (Canceled)